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ABSTRACT

A glucokinase activator is provided; and a remedy and/or a preventive for diabetes, or a remedy and/or a preventive for diabetes such as retinopathy, neurosis, ischemic cardiopathy, arteriosclerosis, and further a remedy and/or a preventive for obesity are provided.

A glucokinase activator characterized by containing a 2-heteroaryl-substituted benzimidazole derivative of a general formula (I-0) or its pharmaceutically-acceptable salt:

$$\begin{pmatrix}
R^{1} - X_{5} \xrightarrow{I_{7}^{1}} X_{3} \\
Q X_{3} \times X_{4} & N
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix}
R^{2} \\
Q
\end{pmatrix}$$
(I-0)

[in the formula, X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom;

10 X₁, X₂, X₃ and X₄ each independently represent a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom; the ring A represents a 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing aromatic hetero ring of a formula (II):

(in the formula, X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom); R^1 represents an aryl, etc.; R^2 represents a hydroxy, etc.; R^3 represents a -C₁₋₆ alkyl, etc.; R^4 represents a -C₁₋₆ alkyl, etc.; X_5 represents -O-, etc.; a indicates an integer of 1, 2 or 3; q indicates an integer of from 0 to 2; m indicates an integer of from 0 to 2].